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UTILITY	Attorney Docket No	0	
PATENT APPLICATION	First Inventor or Application Identifier	am L	
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TRANSMITTAL (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F R. § 1 53(b))	Express Mail Label No.	384 84	

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	ATION ELEMENTS of concerning utility patent application content	s	Assistant Commissioner for Patents ADDRESS TO: Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231			
* Fee Tran	smittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)		5 Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)			
2. Specification	original and a duplicate for fee processing) on [Total Pages 6	]]	Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission     (if applicable, all necessary)			
	ve title of the Invention		a. Computer Readable Copy			
	ferences to Related Applications at Regarding Fed sponsored R & D		b. Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)			
- Referenc	e to Microfiche Appendix		c. Statement verifying identity of above copies			
- Backgrou	and of the Invention	Γ	ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS			
	nmary of the Invention	Γ	7. Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))			
	cription of the Drawings (if filed)	1	37 C.F.R.§3.73(b) Statement Power of			
	Description	1	8 (when there is an assignee) Attorney			
- Claim(s)	of the Directory	1	9. English Translation Document (if applicable)			
(ZS)	of the Disclosure (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets	]]	Information Disclosure Copies of IDS Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations			
Oath or Declarati	ion [Total Pages	7, 1	11. Preliminary Amendment			
a. 🚺 Ne	wly executed (original or copy)	],	Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)			
	py from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § continuation/divisional with Box 16 complete	od) '''	* Small Entity Statement filed in prior application			
	DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)	"	Status etill proper and desired			
i. DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting  (PTO/SB/09-12)  Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)						
inventor(s) named in the prior application, $1^{44}$ $\square$ (if foreign priority is claimed)						
see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).  15 Other:						
FEES, A SMALL ENTITY	Y STATEMENT IS REQUIRED (37 C.F.R. § 1.27), E OR APPLICATION IS RELIED UPON (37 C.F.R. §	XCEPT	***************************************			
			y the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:			
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For CONTINUATION o	r DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disc	losure of the	ne prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied			
reference. The incorp	idered a part of the disclosure of the acci oration <u>can only</u> be relied upon when a p	ompanying ortion has b	continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.			
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METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)				F	EE CALCULATION (continued)	
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to.  Deposit	Large Fee			AL FE III Entit Fee e (\$)		
Account Number	105	130	205	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
Deposit Account	127	50	227	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.	
Name	139	130	139	130	Non-English specification	
Charge Any Additional Fee Required	147	2,520	147	2,520	For filling a request for reexamination	
2. Payment Enclosed:	112	920*		920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
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FEE CALCULATION	115	110	215	55	Extension for reply within first month	1
1. BASIC FILING FEE	116	380	216	190	Extension for reply within second month	
Large Entity Small Entity	117	870	217	435	Extension for reply within third month	
Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Code (\$) Code (\$) Fee Paid	118	1,360	218	680	Extension for reply within fourth month	
101 690 201 348 Utility filing fee	128	1,850	228	925	Extension for reply within fifth month	
106 310 206 155 Design filing fee	119	300	219	150	Notice of Appeal	
107 480 207 240 Plant filing fee	120	300	220	150	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
108 690 208 345 Reissue filing fee	121	260	221	130	Request for oral hearing	
114 150 214 75 Provisional filing fee	138	1,510	138	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
	140	110	240	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)	141	1,210	241	605	Petition to revive - unintentional	
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES	142	1,210	242	605	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
Fee from Ext <u>ra Claims below Fee Paid</u>	143	430	243	215	Design issue fee	
Total Claims20** = X =	144	580	244	290	Plant issue fee	
Independent - 3** = X = X	122	130	122	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
Multiple Dependent	123	50	123	50	Petitions related to provisional applications	
**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see below	126	240	126	240	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
Large Entity Small Entity  Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Code (\$) Code (\$)	581	40	581	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
103 18 203 9 Claims in excess of 20	146	690	246	345	Filing a submission after final rejection	
102 78 202 39 Independent claims in excess of 3	149	690	249	345	(37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
104 260 204 130 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	149	690	249	345	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
109 78 209 39 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent	Other	fee (sp	ecify)			
110 18 210 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	Other	fee (spe	ecify)			
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SUBMITTED BY					Complete (if applicable)	5
Name (Print/Type) HUGH LOSBNER		Registr (Attorne			Telephone 973 672 2277	
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# STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS Docket Number (Optional) (37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))--INDEPENDENT INVENTOR Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: Application or Patent No. Filed or Issued: As a below named inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described in: the specification filed herewith with title as listed above. the application identified above. the patent identified above. I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e). Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below: No such person, concern, or organization exists. Each such person, concern, or organization is listed below. Separate statements are required from each named person, concern, or organization having rights to the invention stating their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27) I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)) NAME OF INVENTOR NAME OF INVENTOR Signature of inventor Signature of inventor Date

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October 10, 2000 155 North Park St. East Orange NJ 07017 Fax 973/672-7536

## WEIGHTED PULLEY SYSTEM CROWD CONTROL STANCHION

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### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to crowd control portable stanchion posts. Crowd control stanchions are portable post assemblies used by maintenance and other individuals to regulate pedestrian traffic. The stanchions are placed in a manner to indicate to pedestrians where the pedestrians should walk or queue.

Stanchions are generally not used singly. Flexible or rigid connecting members such as chains, ropes, tapes or rails are usually used to connect stanchion posts to each other, usually in a linear fashion, or to wall mounted rings. Most connecting members are independent. Independent connecting members can be removed from the stanchions. These independent connecting members have hooks or snaps at both ends to facilitate attaching the connecting members to stanchions.

Some stanchions, however, have extendible and retractable guidance tapes that are internally stored within a housing attached to, or part of, the stanchion. I use the term guidance tape to refer to an extendible tape have means to connect the tape to another stanchion or a wall mounted ring. The guidance tape is wound onto a reel that comprise part of the stanchion assemblies. These guidance tapes can be extended from the stanchion post by unwinding them from the reels. The virtue of a stanchion with an extendible internally stored guidance tape is convenience. First, there is no need to store the connecting member separately. The guidance tape is internal to the stanchion and stored with it. The guidance tape can not be lost. Second, an extendible guidance tape can be used to delineate any distance up to the maximum extension of the guidance tape. It is not necessary to stock multiple length connectors since the guidance tape can be extended as far as desired up to the maximum extension.

Said reels have spring mechanisms to keep the guidance tapes taut when extended and to rewind the guidance tapes after use. Extending the guidance tape causes the spring to be wound, storing potential energy in the spring. When it is desired to rewind the extended guidance tape, the stored potential energy spins the reel rewinding the guidance tape.

Although guidance tape stanchion posts with internal guidance tapes are convenient, spring rewind mechanisms have limitations. First, if a simple spring mechanism is used, the tension on the guidance tape will not be constant. As the guidance tape is extended, the spring will be wound tighter and the tension will increase. Constant force springs mechanisms reduce this problem to some degree, but they require additional complexity and expense. Second, spring mechanisms can, and frequently do, break. Breakage renders the guidance tape mechanism inoperable. Third, the guidance tapes in present systems are stored and extended in a vertical aspect. This results in a tendency for the top of the guidance tape to curl. The curling is exacerbated by the proclivity of pedestrians, when standing next to an extended guidance tape to hold and press down upon the top of the guidance tape, thereby causing even greater curling.

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### WEIGHTED PULLEY SYSTEM CROWD CONTROL STANCHION

Fourth, releasing a completely extended guidance tape may cause it to rewind with excessive speed. Braking means are possible but these increases cost and complexity. Finally, the longer the desired length of a guidance tape, the greater the necessary diameter of the reel. A large reel on the top of a stanchion post may be considered unsightly, limiting the maximum length of the guidance tape.

#### SUMMARY OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

My invention comprises a portable stanchion post using gravitational potential as energy storage means to retract an extended guidance tape. A weighted pulley means, rather than a spring, is used both to store gravitational energy for maintaining tension when the guidance tape is extended, retracting the guidance tape when desired, and as means to store the retracted guidance tape within the stanchion post.

The art of pulley design and construction is well known. Pulleys allow heavy objects to be hoisted with a force less than the weight of the object at the expense of having to move the force a greater distance than the weight to be moved. A pulley system with a five fold mechanical advantage, for example, can theoretically be used to lift a 100 lb. weight with a force of only 20 lbs., but the 20 lb. force must be moved through a distance 5 times the distance that the weight is lifted. In reality, a force of more than 20 lbs. would be needed to overcome energy lost through friction.

Although the use of the pulley to lift heavy weights is ancient and well understood, it is not generally appreciated that the system can be used in reverse. A comparatively large force can be moved through a short distance to move a lesser force through a longer distance. That is the essence of the present pulley stanchion system.

The weighted pulley system comprises a top block assembly and a bottom block assembly. Each block assembly comprises a block, that is a case, and a plurality of rollers that are held within the case. The top block assembly comprises, in addition to the plurality of rollers, a ring to which a snap end can be attached and a threaded stud to which a decorative finial may be attached. The bottom block assembly comprises, in addition to the plurality of rollers, a weight and a membrane.

The guidance tape is stored as multiple plies laced between the two block assemblies. When the guidance tape is extended from the stanchion, the bottom block assembly rises. When the directional guidance tape is retracted the bottom block assembly drops within the post. The distance that the bottom block assembly rises and falls relative to the distance that the guidance tape is extended depends on the number of plies of the guidance tape. For every inch that the bottom block assembly rises or falls, the guidance tape will extend or retract N inches, where N is the number of plies.

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# WEIGHTED PULLEY SYSTEM CROWD CONTROL STANCHION

A membrane attached to the bottom block assembly provides a seal between said bottom lock assembly and the post. This permits pneumatic braking when the guidance tape is being retracted.

The pulley stanchion system which I describe has the advantages that (1) it removes the complexity of spring mechanisms, (2) it uses gravity to provide a constant force over the entire extension range of the guidance tape, (3) in its natural configuration the extendible guidance tape is extended in an horizontal aspect, thus reducing curling, (4) the bottom block assembly with membrane act as a piston, providing simple and efficient pneumatic braking when the guidance tape is being retracted and (5) the guidance tape is stored as multiple linear plies within the length of the stanchion tube rather than on a bulky circular reel.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- FIG, 1 is a perspective view of the stanchion showing.
- FIG. 2 is a side view of the tape storage/pulley mechanism showing the path extendible guidance tape follows through the rollers of top block assembly and bottom block assembly.
- FIG. 3 is a side view of the mechanism showing the disposition of the top and bottom pulley mechanisms and their associated rollers relative to the stanchion post.
  - FIG. 4 is a front view of top and bottom block assemblies including blocks and rollers.
  - FIG. 5 is a front view of top and bottom pulley mechanism showing tape and snap end.
- FIG. 6 is a partial view of top block, post, and top roller, showing how top surface of top roller clears the top rim of stanchion post.
  - FIG. 7 is a side view of top block assembly.
  - FIG. 8 is a front view of top block assembly.
  - FIG. 9 is a top view of top block assembly showing attachment ring.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

FIG. 1 shows a perspective view the preferred embodiment of my invention. The stanchion comprises a base 12 attached to a post 10. Extending from top assembly 8 is tape 2. At the end of tape 2 is snap end 1.

I have found that an 18 gauge 2 inch diameter tube 34 inches in length attached to an 14 inch diameter base are a suitable post and base combination.

A variety of means may be used to attach the post to the base. One method is to weld the post to the base. An other method is to have a threaded hole in the base and, in the tube, a tube connector such as Gabriel Glide Co.'s 302-2000-06-18. A threaded stud can thus be used to attach the tube to the base. With this method, the post can be screwed onto, and unscrewed from, the base for ease of storage and transportation. The specific method of attachment is not important except that the base should provide a relatively air tight seal at the bottom of the post so that pneumatic braking may be used to slow the descent rate of the bottom block, and hence the tape retraction speed.

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#### WEIGHTED PULLEY SYSTEM CROWD CONTROL STANCHION

Fixed to the top of post 10 is top block assembly 8. Visible in FIG. 1 is the attachment ring part of top assembly 8. Decorative finial 14 is shown on top of top block assembly 8. Extending from top block assembly 8 is tape 2. Snap end 1 is attached to tape 2. In the normal use of the stanchion, tape 2 is extended and snap end 1 is snapped onto the attachment ring of a second stanchion or onto a wall mounted ring.

FIG 2 shows how the components of the pulley system are disposed relative to each other and the path that tape 2 follows. Tape 2 passes over top assembly top roller 3, under bottom assembly bottom roller 7, over top assembly middle roller 4, under bottom assembly top roller 8, over top assembly bottom roller 6, and finally is attached to the top of bottom block assembly 9. From FIG 2 it can be seen that the rollers comprising each block assemblies are of different diameters. This permits the multiple plies of tape to avoid touching. This configuration reduces friction when the tape is being extended or retracted. FIG. 3 shows how the components are disposed internally to post 10.

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Top block assembly is seated on the top rim of post 10 and bottom block assembly 9 is contained within post 10. Tape 2 is contained within the post 10 laced as multiple plies between top and bottom block assemblies. In the preferred embodiment, there are five plies of tape. Tape 2 will extend or retract five inches for every inch that bottom block assembly rises or falls within post 10. I have found that a 6.5 inch long bottom block assembly used in conjunction with the depicted top block assembly has, within a 34 inch long tube, a range of vertical movement of about 2 foot. This provides a maximum tape extension of approximately 10 feet.

FIG. 3 and FIG. 6 show how the top roller 3 is disposed relative to the top rim of post 10. Top assembly 8 has a flange or lip which seats assembly 8 on the top rim of post 10 such that the top of roller 3 is above the rim of post 10. This permits tape 2 to exit from top block assembly 8 over the rim of post 10 without touching post 10. FIG. 3 also shows a small screw 16 (such as a #8 machine screw 3/8 inches long) used to attach top block assembly 8 to post 10. FIG. 2 shows hole 15 into which screw 16 is threaded.

FIG. 7 and FIG. 8 show side and front views of top block assembly 8 with rollers 3, 4, and 5. FIG. 9 shows a top view of the preferred ring design of top block assembly 8.

The bottom block assembly must be of sufficient weight to provide sufficient tension to keep the extendible tape taut when extended and to overcome frictional forces when the tape is retracted. I have found that an steel bottom block assembly having overall length of 6.5 inches and 1.87 inch diameter weighs approximately 3.8 lbs. and serves well. The exact weight is not critical.

Attached to the bottom is a circular membrane to provide a seal between the bottom block assembly and the interior wall of the tube. The membrane slows the escape of air from the space between the bottom of the block assembly and the bottom of the tube when the block assembly descends, thus slowing the rate of descent of the bottom block assembly. The art of pistons and

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Hugh Gene Loebner C/o Crown Industries, Inc. Tel 973/672-2277 October 10, 2000 155 North Park St. East Orange NJ 07017 Fax 973/672-7536

## WEIGHTED PULLEY SYSTEM CROWD CONTROL STANCHION

sealing pistons is well understood. I have found that a 2 inch diameter disk of tempo nylon velour material serves to slow the descent of the bottom block assembly.

Those skilled in the art will understand that although the embodiment described here uses a pulley system with five plies of tape, alternative configurations are possible with a different number of plies. They will also understand that although I have described the top block assembly as comprising a ring and means for attaching a decorative finial, other configurations are possible. For example, it would be possible to integrate the decorative final as part of the top block assembly, or to dispense with a decorative finial completely and provide the top block assembly with a finished, flat, top. Also, although I have described a snap end and attachment ring as the means of attaching the extendible tape to a companion stanchion, other attachment means are possible. Also, the attachment ring can be a separate component distinct from the top block assembly.

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## WEIGHTED PULLEY SYSTEM CROWD CONTROL STANCHION

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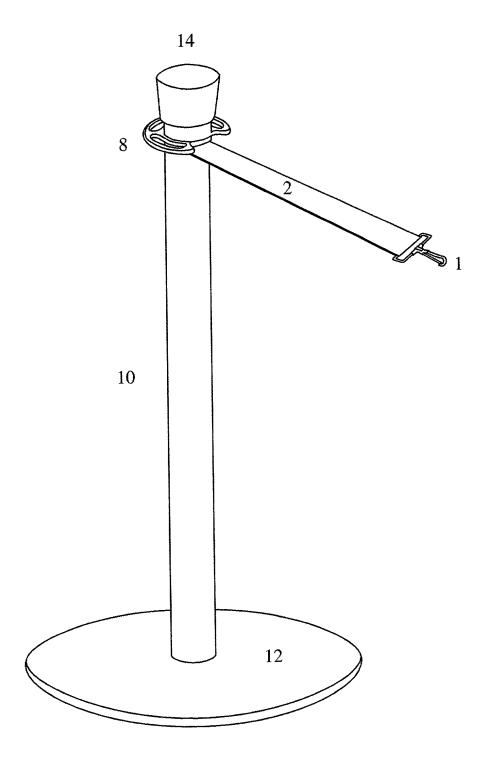
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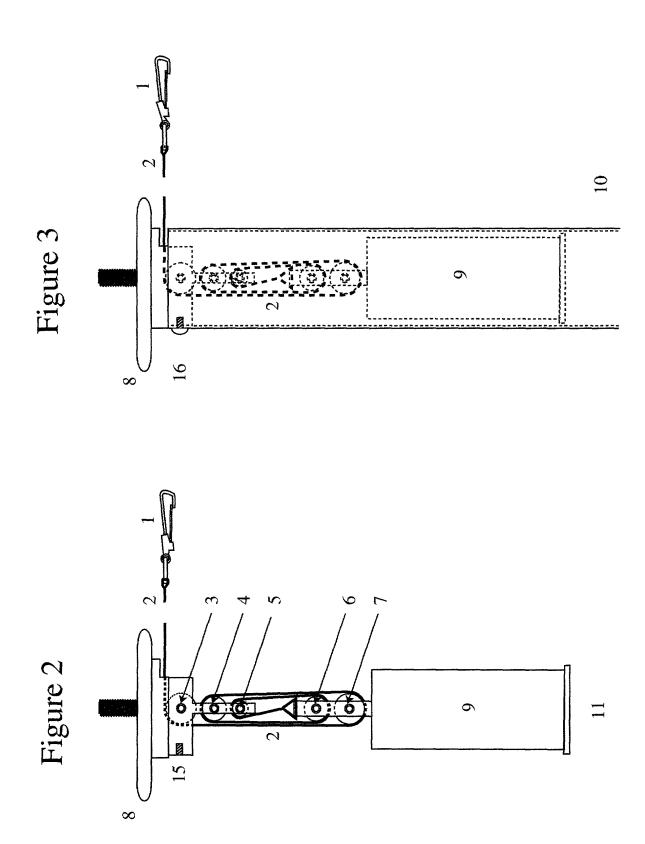
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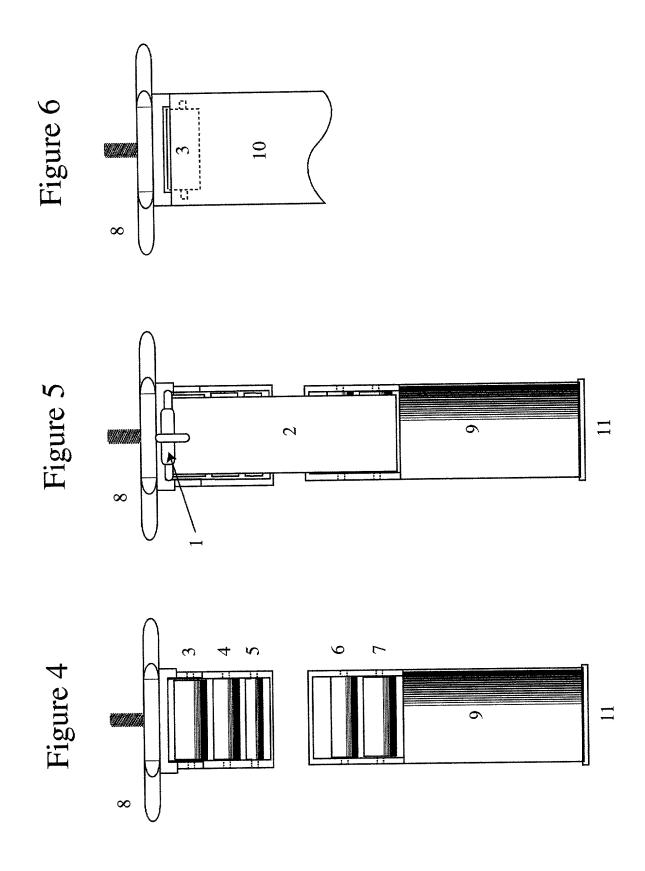
- 1. An extendible guidance tape crowd control stanchion comprising (a) a base, (b) a post attached to said base, (c) a fixed top block assembly attached to said post, said top block assembly comprising a plurality of rollers, (b) a movable bottom block assembly contained within said post, said bottom block assembly comprising a plurality of rollers and a weight, (d) an extendible and retractable guidance tape laced between said top block assembly and said bottom block assembly, said guidance tape comprising a tape and means for attaching said tape.
- 2. In a crowd control stanchion having an extendible and retractable guidance tape, the improvement comprising

  gravitational means for maintaining tape tension when said guidance tape is extendible.
  - gravitational means for maintaining tape tension when said guidance tape is extended and for retracting said guidance tape.
  - A crowd control stanchion according to claim 2 where said gravitational means for maintaining guidance tape tension and retracting said guidance tape comprises a weighted pulley system.
  - 4. A crowd control stanchion according to claim 3 where said pulley system comprises (a) a fixed top block assembly comprising a plurality of rollers and (b) a movable bottom block assembly comprising a plurality of rollers and a weight.

Figure 1







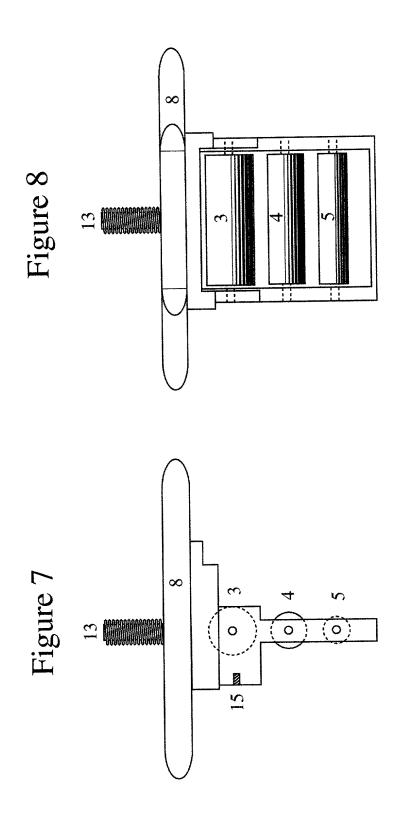
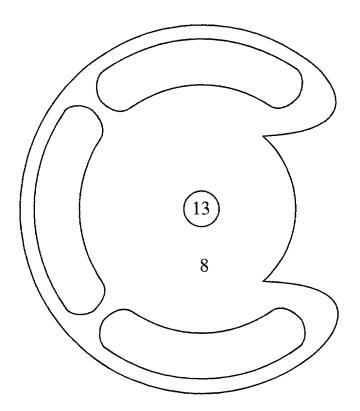


Figure 9



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# **DECLARATION** — Utility or Design Patent Application

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filling date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filling date of this application						
				Filing Date		nt Patent Number if applicable)
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Name of S	ole or First Inventor:		☐ A pe	tition has been	filed for this u	insigned inventor
G	Given Name (first and middle [if any]) Family Name or Surname					
HUGH G LOEBNER						
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Declaration [ Submitted OR	<ul> <li>Declaration</li> <li>Submitted after Initial</li> </ul>	Group Art Unit			
with Initial Filing	Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)	Examiner Name			
My residence, post office a libelieve I am the original, names are listed below) of West State I below of the specification of which is attached hereto OR was filed on (MM/D Application Number I hereby state that I have reamended by any amendments.	D/YYY)	one name is listed below) aimed and for which a pat but Control  of the Invention)  as United a amended on (MM/DD/Y ontents of the above identity.	or an original, firent is sought on Stan C	ion Number or F	PCT International
certificate, or 365(a) of any	ity benefits under 35 U.S.C. PCT international application ave also identified below, by chapplication having a filing date	which designated at lea	ist one country t	or patent or inver	JIIILOU CIUICOS CI
Number(s)	Country	(MM/DD/YYYY)	Not Claimed	YES	NO
			0000		0000
Additional foreign applie	ation numbers are listed on a	supplemental priority data	sheet PTO/SB/6	02B attached he	reto·
hereby claim the benefit	under 35 U.S.C 119(e) of any	United States provisiona	application(s) lis	sted below	
Application Number		(MM/DD/YYYY)	Addıti numb	onal provision ers are listed o emental priorit SB/02B attach	on a y data sheet

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Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.4 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231